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Vol. 11 No. 4

Annual Conference

May 1948

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# THE BULLETIN

of the

## LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 11

NUMBER 4

### CONTENTS FOR MAY

Russia and the Marshall Plan.....	John E. Kieffer	94
You and Your Professional Association.....	N. Orwin Rush	99
People and Places.....	Mattie Sue Mounce	104
Louisiana Library Association, Twenty-Second Annual Conference, Program.....		108
President's Report .....		109
Secretary's Report .....		110
College and Reference Section.....		113
Trustees Section .....		114
Public Libraries Section.....		114
School Libraries Section.....		114
Parish Library Conference.....		116
Index to Volume 11.....		116

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# RUSSIA AND THE MARSHALL PLAN

JOHN E. KIEFFER\*

Associate Professor, Tulane University

IN 1919 a little man, with a somewhat biased vision and a dream which has turned into a nightmare, in addressing his revolutionary cohorts in Moscow, said, "The existence of the Soviet Republic side by side with capitalistic states is unthinkable. A series of frightful collisions between the Soviet Republic and the bourgeois nations will be inevitable." That little man was Lenin. In starting with the tenets of the Communist doctrine as a basic premise, Russia has continued all of her existence to threaten the peace and security of the world.

It might be well to point out in this case that in the almost eleven hundred years of her existence Russia has never lived under any other structure but that of a dictatorship.

Starting in 858 and up to the present moment the Russian people have never known one day of Democracy or one day of political liberty and freedom. It is an extremely difficult thing for us to break down eleven hundred years of tradition by such feeble propaganda as we fed to the Russian people during the last war, and it is equally difficult for the Russian people, with that same eleven hundred years of dictatorial tradition, to see how it is possible for Democracy to be a success. Consequently, at the moment, we are engaged in what I feel to be a life and death struggle between Democracy and Communism.

It is a sound principle of international politics that two worlds cannot exist within the same area. We realize that if those two worlds could be kept apart, two international structures could be kept apart, and we might live at peace; but when the two international structures are both interested in the same territory, have the same imperialist objectives, and are after exactly the same group of people, so that the worlds interlap, it is a well known principle that one or the other or both will ultimately be destroyed.

We have accepted Communism in the

United States, or rather the discussion of it, more or less as we have adopted the new look or having the leather upholstery of our automobile match the dress we wear today. We have adopted the idea that Communism is here, much the same as we adopt anything which appeals to the dilettante, and for us at the moment it is a fad. It is a subject to talk about after you have mentioned the weather. The question arises: does the average American appreciate the position which he is now in, and does he appreciate the danger of which he talks? There are many Americans who believe that there is no danger, that there is no problem, that there is no crisis. The present administration has been charged with deliberately creating this crisis, for the purpose of discovering some sort of political capital on which it can predicate reelection. It has also been charged by various and sundry (I can't call them authorities) various and sundry office-seekers, that the United States is fomenting world destruction, that we are refusing to cooperate with Russia, that Russia has committed no acts of aggression, that these are all actions which are conceived in the mind of a group of American propagandists, and for a moment I would like to explore that possibility.

Starting with Yalta, the Russian plan for world domination and world conquest was put into effect. The opening which we gave Russia by holding the American forces in check while she swept in from the east to occupy Czechoslovakia and part of Germany and Austria was sufficient to give her a start. It was sufficient for this reason: Russia does not figure cooperation as we do. She does not believe that cooperation of our type or definition is possible. She is perfectly willing to use every compromiser, every appeaser whom we may present, but the difficulty is that all of the compromise

\* Paper given at L.L.A. Conference in Monroe, April 23, 1948.

and all of the appeasement must be according to Russia's definition. She is perfectly willing and does use every possible means at her disposal to further the doctrine of Communism and to take over one state after another. Now the difficulty with compromise and attempted appeasement is that one fine morning the compromisers and the appeasers wake up to find that the pattern which they followed so carefully and in which they put their trust was used by Communist Russia simply to gain a new satellite power. Russia will compromise and cooperate with any nation in the world precisely as long as it serves her purpose and not one day more.

We must ask ourselves if there really is any evidence of Communist aggression or Russian aggression towards any nation in Europe or the United States. It seems almost childish to ask that question in view of the facts that have been presented to us, and in view of the incidents of the recent past. We saw the sorry spectacle of Czechoslovakia, who had turned its attention from the West to the East, attempting to cooperate with Russia in every respect. Czechoslovakia is, and has always been, a Democratic power. Its people have taken part in every movement that the world has seen to apply Democracy, not Communism. Following the betrayal at Munich, Czechoslovakia had only one hope of existence. She could no longer trust Britain, France, and the United States, so she put her faith in Russia. She was prepared to make mutual assistance pacts, prepared to cooperate in every way with the Russian state, and there was a frank agreement between Dr. Benes and Marshal Stalin that this cooperation of Czechoslovakia with Russia would not be one that would lead to a Communist state in Czechoslovakia. I do not have to tell you the result. Czechoslovakia is a Communist power today.

There is the sorry spectacle of Rumania, whose king cooperated with Russia, and who is now wandering in a somewhat lonely existence looking for any nation that will allow him to stay for more than thirty days. There is Hungary, trying her second experiment

with Communism, her second attempt to cooperate with Russia, finding herself a Communist state.

Nearer home, we have seen the incidents which have occurred in Berlin, the incidents which have occurred in Vienna,—perfectly senseless examples of the adolescent child exerting what he feels to be a manly strength. There is no reason in the world why the Four Powers cannot cooperate in Berlin and in Vienna. There is nothing to be lost on the part of Russia by permitting American planes, or British planes, or British motor car vans to cross her area into their own district; and if you examine the structure of the international agreement at Berlin and Vienna, you will find that when it was drawn, Russia was very careful to place her zone between the source of supplies and the foreign zones which they were to supply. So that for every loaf of bread, for every man, and for every order that is sent by the United States to American contingents in Berlin and Vienna they must be sent through Russian channels. There is no way that it can be avoided. I believe that it was a deliberate plan on the part of Russia to establish a structure of this type in order that she might attempt, when she felt the time had arrived, to cut off this source of supplies and manpower and of guidance.

And there is the example of Italy. Surely not even Mr. Wallace can believe that there was no Russian aggression, and that there was no Russian influence in Italy. Recent charges are that the United States has bought and paid for an election in Italy. I do not believe this to be true. I do not think, knowing the Italian people from personal contact, that the presence of two grain boats in Naples harbor is sufficient to bring out 90 per cent of the Italian voters, so early in the day that the polls had no business whatsoever the last three hours that they were open. I do not feel that a promise from the United States for future assistance is sufficient to pile up an overwhelming majority in favor of the democratic movement. I do not feel, for example, that de Gasperi and his colleagues in other political parties of the

Democratic faction could gain 72 per cent of the Senate and 77 per cent of the Chamber of Deputies solely on the basis of American propaganda, and I base this on the fact that I have listened to American propaganda abroad, and it would not convince me to do anything except turn off my radio. I point out to you also that for every library that the United States has sponsored in Italy, for every book that the United States has sent to Italy, the Russians have sponsored two libraries, and sent two books. For every documentary film we have sent, the Russians have sent five. For every propaganda speaker which we have sent in behalf of the Marshall plan, the Russians have sent twelve. For every American agent there is in Italy, the Russians have twenty-five. I do not see,—and I say this with all due respect to all librarians,—how five American libraries in Italy can accomplish much in the face of ten, or a dozen, or twenty-five libraries, the library sources of information, on Communism. I realize the power of the American library, but I think even you will agree with me that it is not that great. I feel that the overwhelming support which de Gasperi has received, while it is not entirely due to the Marshall plan, is in part due to it. I do feel that it owes more to the fact that the Italian people at this point want Democracy themselves, not Communism, and that it was a popular reaction of the people.

We have all heard the charges that the Pope threatened excommunication of anyone who voted Communist. That is a palpable lie on the surface. The Pope in his speeches, as did the clergy in Italy, tried to point out to the people of Italy what was happening or what would happen when they embraced a political doctrine whose basic issue was the elimination of Christianity and the church of any kind, as an organ of capitalistic control. One cannot abandon the church, not the Catholic church, in favor of a political movement, and still remain in the good graces of the parish priest, the bishop, and the church as a whole. It was not simply a question of the parish priest or the Pope excommunicating simply because of a vote, but

because the thing for which the vote was cast was contrary to the doctrine of all Christian churches.

To turn our attention a little closer to home. Within the last month,—better still, within the last three weeks,—when Russia saw that the control of Italy by an electoral process was going to be impossible, she intensified her activity in the United States, and in South America. This started with the incident in Colombia, which incidentally is still going on. There were 8,000 registered Communists and Communist agents in Colombia. There are still 5,000 alleged Colombians in revolt against the government. We realize, those of us who have studied the situation from a technical point of view, that the methods used in Colombia for the promotion of revolt, were identical with the methods endorsed by Russia and by the Communist party manual. Within the last week we have seen the destruction of the principal arsenal in Brazil. We have received a report from Paraguay telling us almost tearfully that Communist party members are massing on her border. We have received a report from Ecuador telling us that she fears a Communist invasion. And in this morning's paper comes a report from Chile in which a plan of hemisphere aggression by internal disorder was discovered, and that plan makes no bones about the fact that it comes directly from the Kremlin.

And in our own country we have seen the beginning of what I believe to be many acts of violence of this type. The shooting of Walter Reuther is an act dictated by Moscow,—or you may believe, as most Americans believe, that it is simply a condition of gang warfare. There is every reason to believe that the present incidents at Vienna, the outrage at Bogota, the destruction of the arsenal at Rio de Janeiro, and the shooting of Walter Reuther are all manifestations of Russian anger at the setback which she has received at the hands of Democracy. Perhaps the attempted assassination of one of America's most sincere champions of labor, and most determined anti-communist labor leaders, will help to drive home the fact that



Russia has definitely embarked on an aggressive program to bring Communism to the American people by force. It is unfortunate that labor has so many leaders who are susceptible to either Communist propaganda or the employment of Communist tactics for self advancement. The shooting of Walter Reuther should be regarded as a personal attack on every citizen of the United States and a clear indication of Russia's intention to follow the Communist doctrine of eliminating those labor leaders that she cannot buy or control. If you think that this is a stab in the back, if you think that is attempting to read Communist aggression or Russian policy into every little insignificant fact that happens in the United States, let me point out to you that point number three of the Russian ten-point geopolitical program for peaceful aggression calls for the infiltration of all labor unions, starting with those serving the sea and ending with those serving heavy industry; the seizure of power by electoral means, by coups d'etat, by any means whatsoever; and, failing any means which may be used through the members, to eliminate by physical elimination any labor leader who stands in the way of their control.

That statement can be found in your library. Walter Reuther has been the outstanding American labor leader in the fight against Communism. He has recently expelled from this union all Communists in positions of importance. He has opened his union to all members of the American Electrical Workers Union, (the CIO), which is a frank Communist organization, and he has said that anyone who is dissatisfied with the Communist structure of the Electrical Workers Union will be welcome in the Automotive Workers Union. I point out to you this, as a matter of technique in political assassination,—that when you wish to kill a man and not leave any trace, or not leave any telltale finger prints which the ballistic expert can follow, you use a shotgun because a shotgun carries no ballistic marks. You don't use a rifle. A rifle can be traced. That is somewhat elementary, and is the principal

reason that a shotgun was used, and it also serves to point out to the American people, at least from a naive point of view, that it was an accidental proposition. Who would expect a man to commit murder with a shotgun? Not the average American, but the man who works in that field can tell you very easily that a shotgun is the best weapon; it leaves no trace.

Now where does this bring us? It brings us to this point. The United States has her choice today. Whether you wish to look at it from a realistic point of view, or whether you wish to look at it from an idealistic point of view, of either giving in and allowing Russia to complete her program, or to resist her, the Russian program is simply this: to sweep across the earth until she reaches Lisbon, to take North Africa to the point of reaching Dakar. Why? Because the distance from Lisbon to Washington is thirty eight hundred and ninety miles by air and the Russians have a bomber which can travel from Lisbon to Washington and back to the Azores before it needs refueling. They do not have a bomber which will fly over the North Pole and effectively bomb the United States and return; therefore they must insure a position which is near enough to the United States to follow the more conventional routes rather than the great circle route. Dakar has much the same condition with a difference of perhaps twenty-five or thirty air miles.

Secondly, the Russian policy since the days of Peter the Great, regardless of what kind of government is in power in Russia, has been exactly the same: to control the Mediterranean; to control the Balkans; to control the Middle East. In other words, the Russians have been raised for eleven hundred years on dictatorship and for three hundred years on world conquest. We are standing today exactly where we stood at the Congress of Vienna. We are dealing with almost the same problems that they faced at Vienna,—whether Russia shall dominate Europe or whether she shall not. What then can the United States do? The United States has

embarked on the first step in the passage of the European Recovery Program. Do not confuse the European Recovery Program with the Marshall Plan. They are not identical. The European Recovery Program is one year of the Marshall Plan. It calls for six billion dollars and a guarantee that we will support the Democracies of Western Europe for one year. It does not call for the fourteen billion dollars that Mr. Marshall wanted, nor does it call for the five-year guarantee, and I do not feel that we can expect Europe to gamble on American support unless we are prepared to offer her something besides one year of our support. I do not feel that Europe can be expected to adhere to Democracy when in the face of a crisis of this magnitude we appropriate six billion dollars, when, in 1947 (when things were not critical), we appropriated eleven billion to do the same job. We have to have more than the European Recovery Program. We have to have in this country a strong centralized intelligence service which can keep us well informed every day of what activities are going on. We have to have a strong military establishment, not for the purpose of waging aggressive warfare, but for the purpose of defending our own shores. We do not put locks on doors to hold people in, we put them on for the purpose of keeping people out. You don't go out and meet the robber on the street, you wait until he comes to you, and that I feel is the purpose of a strong defensive force—to wait until he comes to us. And lastly, and most importantly, we have to have in the United States a unified people all believing that Democracy is the kind of a tradition that we must follow and the kind of a government we must have. I know it is very amusing and lots of fun to toy with the idea of a Communist state, but I want to point out to you that it is easier for the popular mind to conceive of the whole people benefiting by the concentration of power in the hands of a few men than it is for the popular mind to conceive of the whole benefits that may be derived from limited governments such as we have. In limited government we have

inefficient operation, we sometimes have corruption, we sometimes have a great many mistakes, but we have freedom. In a government in which the power is concentrated in the hands of one or a few men, inevitably you have depotism, for when you toy with such ideas as Mr. Wallace advocates for the United States, remember that the first man who holds the job may not be the dictator which you will ultimately receive; but once you embark on that course of action, you will inevitably end up in a dictatorial state, and it is to the advantage of Russia to have the United States under dictatorial conditions because then we are more susceptible to any propaganda which she wishes to sell here.

It is my firm belief that Russia has passed the point of propaganda in this country, that she is embarking on a program of relentless and ruthless political and terroristic action which is so common to her doctrine, and I believe that unless it is crushed we will have, inevitably, difficulty in the United States of a kind we don't wish to have. I firmly believe that that will not be crushed until everyone connected in any way with education—from the administrative authorities on down to the laboratory assistants—makes it his business to see that the people in his charge are thoroughly educated in the benefits of Democracy. If I were a librarian I would have a shelf in my library with a sign over it, and I would say on this sign "This is Democracy," and I would get every book I could find on Democracy and put it under that sign, and I would start a one-man campaign to all my readers, "Have you read this? Have you read that? Have you read the other thing?" I would put on a program of personal salesmanship, because the books which you do not recommend now may be the books which an aggressor in this country will burn.

The basic issue involved between Russia, the United States, and the use of the Marshall Plan, by which we define all overall aids to Europe, is simply this. The dress which you have on and the suit which you buy costs more this year than last year. It

costs more than it did ten years ago. Everything in this world has gone up in price, and so has Democracy. I want to point out to you that in the later days of Lenin he said "I realize liberty is a precious thing, so precious it should be rationed." Do you want to pay the inflated price which Democracy calls for today in order to have the liberty

which Lenin wished to ration? Do you wish to pay the bill for the heritage you have, or do you wish to see that the sickle and hammer can cast as much light on your country as the star? From my point of view, I believe Democracy should be rationed, but my Democracy must be rationed by the people and not by a dictator.

## YOU AND YOUR PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

N. ORWIN RUSH\*

Executive Secretary, Association of College and Reference Libraries

"Do we have five years, ten years, or twenty-five before civilization will commit suicide? Before we shall be engaged in war with Russia? Before *what*?" . . . "Fear, uncertainty, and disillusionment characterize the thinking and attitude of the majority of men and women . . . toward the future." There is scarcely a paper or a magazine today that does not carry in one form or another a message similar to that which I have just quoted from the recent issue of a leading weekly magazine.

With headlines like these in our papers and similar thoughts in our minds, to spend time discussing a seemingly unimportant subject as professional organizations may seem untimely. If this were a convention of fashion designers, I might hesitate to call upon you to remember the essential importance of your profession at this time, but since our profession is what it is I make no apologies.

Librarians occupy a strategic position in this muddled state of affairs. We are in a position to take a leading hand, with others, in the formation of an intelligent public opinion on the political and social issues upon which the future peace, freedom, and prosperity of the world depend.

Just a few weeks ago I attended the NEA's Conference on Higher Education where there was much discussion as to the role of education in the solution of the complex issues

that confront our nation. I should like to quote from an address by O. C. Carmichael (President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching):

"Whose job is it to survey the contemporary social scene and map the strategy for a campaign against the ills that beset society? The engineer, the doctor, the lawyer, the preacher and countless other professional and business leaders have important functions to fill, but no one of them has the over-all picture. Each has a specialized part to play. All intelligent and socially minded leaders contribute to the solution of our common problems. But whose task is it to *train* the *leaders*, to mobilize the forces and to organize the campaign? Perhaps that is the role of higher education in American society."

Mr. Carmichael was referring to colleges and universities as the instruments of higher education but libraries are certainly equally important as institutions of education for many individuals—for the 70% of high school graduates who never darken the door of a college, for the 30% who withdraw from college before completing their program, as well as for those who have completed college. That libraries are a part of the educational life of the nation is an accepted concept. So that, in the words of Mr. Carmichael, it is the task of the libraries

\*Paper given at L. L. A. Conference in Monroe, April 22, 1948.

to help train the leaders who will organize the campaign against the ills which beset our society.

As we hear reiterated so often today, war must exist in the mind before it comes to the deed; so it is in the minds of men that the foundations of peace must be formed.

Libraries can contribute in a very real way to the directing of the minds of *all* men towards the things which make for peace. This does not mean a program of indoctrination to a given set of values, but rather a program of awakening. All men must be aroused to the urgency of the need for constructive thought and action. It would seem that if our civilization is not to commit suicide in the next five, ten, or twenty-five years, *every group* must take *positive* steps toward building a sound world-wide social and economic system. For librarians merely to make books and information available is not enough. Libraries must bend their efforts to the focusing of the public mind on those factors which are important in the struggle for security and harmonious living. There is a great challenge to the profession.

The American Library Association is just now formulating goals for the next four years which recognize the heavy responsibility placed upon libraries in helping to solve the critical problems facing the American people. You may have read the preliminary statement of the goals, but I believe part of it would bear repeating:

"Libraries must now put major emphasis on spreading information and stimulating citizen action upon the solution of the problems which face the American people today. Libraries must do more than relate their services to the problems. They will have to change the intensity, direction, and even the nature of their services, so that what the library does will contribute directly to the solutions.

"The problems concern peace, food, and security. They are international, national, and local; political, economic, and social; racial, agricultural, industrial, ideological, and spiritual. They are not new in themselves. But they are newly dangerous, be-

cause they exist in an atomic age. They must be solved peacefully.

"Solutions of these problems require knowledge, understanding, expression, and action in every community, every institution, and every group. Yet the solutions are being sought in an atmosphere of misunderstanding, confusion, apathy, and ignorance.

"Many agencies must share in the task of dispelling this atmosphere. It is the library's job to make sure that opinion leaders and other citizens have the widest possible range of reliable information on which to base their judgments and action.

"In pursuing this objective the library need not depart from its traditional role of providing information on all sides of controversial questions. By selection of subjects and service programs for emphasis, it will try to:

"Have an influence on what people think about, without telling people what conclusions they should reach. Make it difficult for anyone within its span of influence to remain ignorant or apathetic about the great issues of our time.

"Help to make individuals and organizations realize that they should not only know and understand but should also express their opinions and act in accordance with their judgment.

"Cooperate to these ends with all other agencies of education and information.

"Ten thousand libraries and 40,000 librarians devoted to this program can help immeasurably to banish indifference, arouse interest, and increase the competence of people to form sound judgments and to act upon them."

As a method of implementing the four-year goals the "Great Issues" program has been inaugurated as we all know.

The American Library Association committee working on this has done an excellent job. It has contacted over 400 outstanding opinion leaders in business, labor, government, religion, education, and science to ask their assistance in determining the critical issues. The first topic undertaken "The Marshall Plan—Pro and Con" has aroused



much public interest, and just now the other five issues are being announced: (1) U. S.-Russian Relations, (2) Inflation and Deflation, (3) Management-Labor Relations, (4) Civil Rights, (5) How Much World Government.

The program has received notable newspaper and radio publicity. But its success rests with each individual library.

The American Library Association is hoping that a program of real cooperation may be carried out.

I understand that your theme for this conference is "United Effort".

Through organization individuals can multiply their own efforts. When viewed singly the things for which we struggle may appear hopeless, but enough people having the same goals and working together can wield a formidable influence.

Without aggressive organization no group can expect to exert any material influence in shaping even local policy, much less state or national.

This "Great Issues" phase of the Four Year Goals has such social significance that it would seem that in itself it would demand the cooperation of every librarian.

We have failed in the true conception of our profession if we do not accept this civic responsibility.

The program of our national library association, through its regional, state, and local organizations, is directed in the broadest sense toward advancing the standards of library service and the continuance of the professional growth of all those engaged in the work of our libraries.

The reluctance to join a professional organization is attributed to various things: (1) it does very little for the individual; (2) or the organization is run undemocratically; (3) or nothing of great significance is being achieved. Perhaps some feel about a professional organization as the man from the Ozarks at the fair for the first time, who on seeing the merry-go-round could not be persuaded to take a ride. He surveyed it for a time but would not part with his dime, "Nope, they ain't goin' no place."

If we survey our professional organizations, however, it would hardly seem that they deserve such a comment. Even a quick glance at their achievements reveals an impressive picture.

The development of the ALA has been vigorous from the beginning. Cooperative endeavor through organizational activity has been responsible for such things as:

1. Bibliographical and indexing service
2. Union lists
3. Professional journals
4. Group annuity plans
5. Scholarships for advance study
6. Accreditation of library schools
7. Standards for the economic welfare of libraries and librarians.

We take so much for granted that it is sometimes easy to forget just what personal benefits we enjoy because of the efforts started one day in 1876 at a Philadelphia Convention:

1. Salaries have been increased.
2. The old 48 hour working week is no longer heard of.
3. The two weeks vacation has given way to a full month or more.
4. More and more the professional librarians in colleges and universities are given faculty status.

The American Library Association has been active for several years now in devising and keeping up to date classification and salary levels. The Classification and Pay Plans prepared by the Board on Personnel Administration have served to establish uniform standards. Uniform standards provide a real basis on which sound development in the profession can proceed.

The ALA has issued score cards whereby each library can rate itself. A brand new score card for college and university libraries will be published this summer. By using the score cards a library is in a position to report to its board or to the citizens of the community exactly where it stands in regard to each item and to ask for needed changes.

The ALA, again through its Board of Personnel Administration, has formulated prin-



ciples of tenure for library staffs. The minimum salary for professional librarians set by the Board and adopted by the Council in January of this year was \$2800.

An effective personnel and placement service is in constant operation.

The ALA has for several years been concerned about drawing into the profession some of the best qualified people.

The professional tools sponsored and published by ALA have made it easier for the individual librarian to do a much better job.

This list could be extended, but I think I have given enough examples to convince us all that every individual librarian has benefited greatly by the work of our national organization. Individual advancement has not been its only concern. To carry out the program as set forth in the Four Year Goals at the present time will be of great significance.

The importance of the recent work on the Library Demonstration Bill which is before Congress now should not be minimized. It has passed the Senate and will probably be reported favorably by the House Education and Labor Committee. It lacks only approval by the House of Representatives to become law.

You in Louisiana have done much to point the way. You have proved so ably under Miss Culver's leadership what a good demonstration program can achieve.

Just now the Fourth Activities Committee is working on a reorganizational plan for ALA which will provide for greater membership participation and control of the association.

One of the former presidents of your Association, Mrs. Florinell Francis Morton has admonished that:

"The values to be derived from membership in an association grow in proportion to the work one does in that association. No one can stand on the sidelines indefinitely and continue to be vitally concerned with the progress of an organization and the realization of its aims. And it is equally true that no organization can continue alert to new developments, progressive in its outlook, and

flexible in its program, unless it be fed continually by new blood. An association that makes the greatest possible use of its members cannot grow stale."

Very soon each member of the ALA will have the opportunity to take a very definite stand in shaping the policy of the organization. The Fourth Activities Committee has for the past nine months been engaged in a scrutiny of the Association's activities with the view of suggesting possible improvements in policy. The committee holds the view that any recommendations which it may make shall be membership recommendations rather than committee recommendations. The plan is to submit each proposal to the membership for discussion and study so that the recommendations will be the result of membership action rather than committee action.

Mr. Shaw, the Chairman of the Committee, expects that the draft of the proposal will be ready to present to the membership before long.

The first report of the Committee was presented to the ALA Council in January and appeared in the March issue of the *ALA Bulletin*.

One of the most important issues that the Committee is considering is that of decentralization. The aim is to provide intimate contact between the association and its members. The Committee has stated that they believe that effective decentralization must provide that the membership of the ALA in the states and regions be the ALA in these states and regions. The national organization would be concerned only in those matters which are not confined to individual states or individual regions, except when it is invited by the states or regions to participate. There would be a single membership fee for membership in the state, regional, and national association.

A second fundamental problem is that of providing a single organ to represent all libraries and librarians.

It is hoped that the Association will be geared to operate primarily through the voluntary effort of its membership, with the

secretariat on the regional and national level serving as catalysts and aids to membership effort rather than as the operating staff.

It is also hoped (a) that in any pattern of organization, we shall provide for groups of subject or type of library interests, on the policy level, to provide for participation of all special groups in the Association in the formulation of over-all policies in which they have an interest.

(b) That the administrative mechanism for carrying on the affairs of the Association should provide for a single channel of action.

The Committee is working on an organizational chart which they hope to publish. One of the Committee's cardinal principles as shown in the chart is delegation of authority and responsibility so that the final authority for ALA in each case would be the lowest level at which the work can be delegated; i.e., if the task is entirely in the field of college library buildings, then the college library building committee would speak for the ALA including the ACRL. If the problem has broader implications, then the overall building committee would speak for the ALA as a whole. If the problem has broader administrative aspects, then it would be shuttled up to the Board of Administration.

The Committee evidently shares the feeling of many members that ALA has missed something by not working more closely with other agencies and organizations and with general education. Mr. Shaw is investigating the possibility of joint membership in such organizations as the National Education Association and the Association of American University Professors.

The Committee has been and still is investigating the possibilities of reducing the great cost of operating Headquarters. Studies have been made of the possible use of IBM or Remington-Rand machines to be used to cut down on the great amount of office work. A series of time studies has been carried on to help determine what work might be curtailed or eliminated. One of the changes the Committee has recently been

thinking about is replacing the *Bulletin* with divisional quarterlies. Mr. Shaw has stated that he has received considerable opinion from the membership concerning the *ALA Bulletin*, and the feeling seems to be that the *Bulletin* should cease publication as such. The divisional quarterlies would each carry four or so uniform pages of ALA news and information. At present four divisions have bulletins.

A number of these fundamental policy questions which have concerned the Fourth Activities Committee have been referred to it for study and action by the preceding committees. Their work has contributed greatly to the advancement of the organization also.

The First Activities Committee in 1928 recommended three new activities for Headquarters: Department of School Libraries, Statistical Department, and a Department for Children's Work. More attention, it believed, should be paid to the status of members of the profession. The leaders, it was said, had neglected this phase of the work of the association.

The major work of the Second Activities Committee was centered on the work of the ALA Committees and Boards. It was of the opinion that Headquarters should not expand much beyond the limits in practice or already recommended. There should be a tendency toward decentralization with funds made available to finance committee work. The more members of the Association who are actively at work on its projects, the more interested members there will be.

The Third Activities Committee concerned itself with the reorganization of the ALA and a new constitution grew out of the work of the Committee, as well as a new statement of the aims and objectives of the profession. You are all aware of the present divisions and sections of ALA. The Third Activities Committee in its final report recommended that state and national associations should attempt, during the next few years, to build up mutual memberships. Every professional librarian should be a member of both his national and his state library association.

This periodic self-examination carried on by the Activities Committees is one of the most far-reaching and hopeful developments within the organization.

In this discussion of our professional organization I have attempted to dwell both upon the importance of its contribution to solving social problems as well as personal problems. The personal problems must be solved before we can effectively come to

grips with the wider problems. But when concerned with personal problems we must not forget those larger purposes for which we really exist. Our professional association exists for the improvement of library service. Our libraries exist for the improvement of the social order.

Through the united effort which an organization can give, our profession can contribute significantly to a prosperous and secure America.

## PEOPLE AND PLACES

Edited by

MATTIE SUE MOUNCE

Assistant Reference Librarian, Louisiana State Library

*Mrs. P. T. Joseph* has joined the staff of the *Rapides Parish Library* replacing *Mrs. Fred C. Capuder* (nee *Corinne Fournet*) who resigned. *Mrs. Joseph*, the former *Eleanor Cohen*, was, before her marriage, on the staff of the New Orleans Public Library and later was associated with *Howell, Soskin* of New York.

*Mrs. Charles Gabriel Felder*, formerly *Sarah Mae McCarroll* of Hammond, has recently returned to the *Tangipahoa Parish Library* where she worked in 1946. *Mrs. Felder*, who is the wife of the Kentwood High School coach, was librarian of the Kentwood High School before the war, and during the war, she was librarian of Byrd High School in Shreveport.

*Mary H. Clay*, librarian of *Northeast Junior College of LSU* at Monroe, has been appointed a member of the Nominating Committee of the Association of College and Reference Libraries, and also a member of the Committee on Qualifications and Preparations of A. C. R. L. Miss Clay was on the program at the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Junior Colleges which was held in Louisville, Kentucky last December. Her topic was "Do Junior Colleges Instructional Scales Need Balancing on the Library Side?" In preparation for this

paper Miss Clay sent a very interesting questionnaire to librarians of the junior colleges in the Southern Association.

*Irene Pope* has resumed her duties as reference librarian at *Northwestern State College*. *Zoma Harper Henry*, who held a temporary position at Northwestern during the fall semester, has resigned, and will soon join her husband on Okinawa. *William H. Jesse*, Director of Libraries at the University of Tennessee, conducted a complete library survey at Northwestern State College Library last fall. Mr. Jesse is chairman of the Committee on Buildings of the Association of College and Reference Libraries.

*Jane St. Clair*, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, recently joined the staff of the *LSU Library* as serials cataloger. Miss St. Clair was formerly on the cataloging staff of the Detroit Public Library.

*Mrs. Lucille T. Carnahan*, librarian of *Natchitoches High School*, reports that school librarians in several parishes have organized in order to work together on a parish level for the improvement of school library services. The Claiborne Parish group elected *Mabel Camp*, librarian at *Haynesville*, chairman and *Mrs. Claudia Deloach* of *Athens*, secretary. According to *Yvonne Toups*, librarian at *Raceland High School*, the libra-

rians in LaFourche Parish have organized, and their first meeting will center around a demonstration on book mending and care of periodicals.

Several school librarians have recently received their library degrees from LSU and have returned to library work. *Marie Whitemen* is now in the *Bolton High School Library*. *Grace Cushing*, after receiving her degree, went to *Jonesboro High School*. *Nina Winstead* went back to *Franklin High School*.

*Emily Spencer*, librarian of *Calcasieu Parish* reports that the library is getting increased publicity via a weekly column in *Southwest News*, a pictorial paper; and a weekly part on the radio program *Listen Ladies*, over station KLOU. Lake Charles has a new service by telephone to give Time and Information. The person in charge of the latter uses the Calcasieu Parish Library as a source of quite a bit of her "Information."

*Shirley Campbell*, a recent graduate of L. P. I., is the new assistant in the *Morehouse Parish Library*, Bastrop.

*Mrs. Noella Charitat* is *Loyola University's* new College of Pharmacy librarian. *Mrs. Charitat* formerly was in the order and reference department of *Southwestern Louisiana Institute's* Library.

*Mrs. Hazel Fort* was promoted to the position of librarian at *International House*, upon the resignation of *Ab Jackson*. *Harriet Lemann*, who has been in the reference department of *Howard-Tilton Library* of *Tulane*, is assistant librarian at *International House*.

The following officers were elected at the annual meeting of the *Louisiana Chapter of Special Libraries Association* in *Baton Rouge* in *January*: President, *Mildred Hogan*; Vice President and President-Elect, *Virginia Parker*; Secretary-Treasurer, *Lois Skinner*; and Delegate-at-Large to the Executive Board, *Mrs. Hazel Fort*.

During *March* the *Washington Parish Library* participated in the parish wide *Career Day* sponsored by the school. An attractive collection of books and a poster were dis-

played at the *Franklinton High School* where the conferences were held. A booklist was distributed to all the students and consultants. *Helen Dykes*, parish librarian, discussed librarianship as a career with a number of students. In celebration of *National Wildlife Preservation Week* the *State Department of Conservation* loaned the *Bogalusa Branch of Washington Parish Library* three glass cases of birds. This attractive exhibit was obtained by the president of the state wildlife organization who lives in *Bogalusa*. The fourteenth branch of the *Washington Parish Library* was opened in mid-January. It serves a large subdivision in *Bogalusa*.

*Mrs. S. H. Woodward*, formerly with the *Toledo Public Library*, is librarian of the new *Queensborough Branch of Shreve Memorial Library* which opened in *March*. More than four hundred were registered during the first week. *Jackie Rembert* of *Shreveport* is the assistant at the new branch. *Bennett A. Cerf* of *Random House*, *Robert M. Lester*, Secretary of the *Carnegie Corporation*, and *Roger T. McCutcheon*, Dean of *Tulane Graduate School*, were recent visitors to *Shreve Memorial Library*.

*Concordia Parish Library* opened its third *Negro branch* in *April*, reports *Mrs. Lillian C. Gray*, librarian. The new branch is in *Clayton*.

*Ruth Schley*, senior catalog librarian at *LSU*, has accepted the position of assistant catalog librarian in charge of the *Serials Division of Columbia University libraries*.

According to *Sue Hefley*, Supervisor of *School Libraries of the Department of Education*, twenty \$50 scholarships in school librarianship have been made available through the *Department of Education* by a grant from the *General Education Board*. The scholarships can be used during the summer of 1948 at any college or university in *Louisiana* which offers library courses which are recognized in state certification. The *General Education Board* has made a grant to *Southern University* for a 3-weeks work conference in school librarianship. The conference, which will be held *July 12-31*,



will be directed by *Mrs. Camille Shade*, librarian and director of Southern's program in training for school librarianship. The State Department of Education has been asked to act as a co-directing agency.

Louisiana representatives at the South-eastern Conference in Education for Librarianship, Atlanta, February 28 through March 6, were *Mrs. Rubie Hanks*, Winn Parish Library, *Anna Davis*, Southeastern College, (Mrs. Hanks and Miss Davis were official representatives of LLA) *Mary Walton Harris*, State Library, *Mrs. Florinell F. Morton*, Library School, *Olive Gehring*, Southwestern Louisiana Institute, and *Sue Hesley*, Department of Education.

*Norris McClellan* of LSU's Library School recently taught an extension course in school library materials in *Pointe Coupee Parish*.

*Mary Lynn Picou* of Ville Platte, who finished library school at LSU at mid-term, is now an assistant in the *Beauregard Parish Library*, DeRidder.

*Marian Ross*, reference librarian of the State Library, returned to her home in Cleveland, Ohio, for a month to be with her sister who underwent an operation in April. Miss Ross reports her sister progressing nicely.

*John Hall Jacobs*, librarian of the New Orleans Public Library, in his capacity as president of the Southwestern Library Association, addressed the Texas Library Association in Austin, which met April 1-3. His topic was "Realism in Regionalism." The Great Books Training Program for New Orleans leaders concluded in April, with some thirty graduates. Reading and discussion groups are being formed, subject to the wishes and needs of the local community. *Dr. Martin Shockley* of the Great Books Foundation conducted the training program in New Orleans, and local librarians enrolled included *Helen Maestri*, *Mrs. Ruth Moor*, *Helen Hart*, *John Hall Jacobs*, and *George King Logan*. The "Teen Age Reviewers", Saturday morning discussion program broadcast from the *New Orleans Main Library* over WDSU, has been awarded honorable mention in the nationwide radio contest sponsored by the City College of New York, School of Business and

Civic Administration. The "Reviewers" are under the joint sponsorship of the New Orleans Public Library and the New Orleans Council of Parent-Teacher Association, whose chairman, *Mrs. Edwin H. Blum*, is chairman of the project.

*Vermillion Parish* recently voted a \$90,000 bond issue for a headquarters library building in Abbeville, reports *Cleo Songy*, librarian.

*Spring Hill*, in *Webster Parish*, now has a separate branch library building. The building was obtained largely through the efforts of local officials and business men.

On April 20 *Arcadia Parish* voted a library tax renewal of three-fourths of a mill. This was an increase over the half mill tax previously in effect, and it carried by a large majority.

*Dr. and Mrs. Paul H. Guilfoil* of Brooklyn, New York are moving in June to Atlanta, Georgia, where Dr. Guilfoil will be on the staff of the Emory University Hospital. Mrs. Guilfoil is the former *Elizabeth Johnson*, reference librarian of Louisiana State Library for a number of years previous to her marriage last fall.

*Anna V. Johnson*, formerly library supervisor of the *Department of Institutions* in Baton Rouge, is now in Seoul, Korea as library consultant of the Department of Higher Education of the U. S. Military Government.

*Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Williams* of Natchitoches are the parents of a son born in April. Mrs. Williams was formerly on the staffs of the *Natchitoches Parish* and *Northwestern State College* libraries.

*East Baton Rouge Library* and *Southeastern Louisiana College Library* were the winners of the Modisette Award which was given this year for the first time to the college and the public library making the greatest progress in the improvement of service throughout last year. Judge Ben Dawkins of Monroe presented the awards to the librarians, *Mrs. Max Schenker* and *Anna P. Davis* at the book program on Friday night, April 23, at the Virginia Hotel in Monroe.

*Debora Abramson*, assistant state librarian,



was one of the speakers on the symposium on reading at the state meeting of the P. T. A. in Lafayette on April 16. Miss Abramson's subject was "Reading As A Means of Promoting Democracy in the Home."

On April 21, Mrs. R. M. Trent of the *State Library* staff spoke to the Baton Rouge Art League on the subject of new art books in the State Library. Mrs. Trent illustrated her talk with a display of new books from the State Library's collection on art. On March 6, Sallie Farrell of the *State Library* reviewed "The Garretson Chronicle" by Gerald Warner Brace at the Stockholders' Tea at the Women's Clubhouse.

*Ouachita Parish's* new bookmobile began its service in April, according to Frances Flanders, librarian.

Plans are underway for another new branch building for *Shreve Memorial Library*. This branch will serve the Broadmoor section of the city.

A two mill library tax for ten years was passed by *La Fourche Parish* on March 30. At the end of the demonstration period, May 31, this library will cease to be a demonstration and will be a tax-supported parish library.

The *Alabama State Public Library Service's* film in color, "Books and People; the Wealth Within", was recently shown by the *Tangipahoa* and *Beauregard Parish Libraries* to large audiences. Much interest has been shown in this very worthwhile film, and it has been found to have great publicity value for library service.

Barbara Bell of Baton Rouge has accepted a position in the *Veterans' Administration Hospital Library in Downey, Illinois*. Miss Bell assumed her duties on May 3.

Miss Essae M. Culver, *State Librarian*, spoke to the members of the faculty of the Reddy Street (Negro) School in Baton Rouge on April 29 on the importance of

reading. Miss Norris McClellan of the *Library School* spoke to the same group on book selection aids for teachers.

Librarians throughout the state deeply regret the recent death of two well-known members of the profession: Rosilia Callaghan of the *Journalism Library of LSU*, and Mrs. Gordon Bennett, *serials librarian of the University*.

On Friday, April 16, the *Pointe Coupee Parish Library*, together with the home demonstration clubs of the parish, sponsored a Pan American Day program with more than two hundred people in attendance. In addition to an exhibit of books on Pan Americanism, a display of handicrafts borrowed from the Pan American Union in Washington was a feature of the program. The event closed with the singing of "America the Beautiful" in a French translation made by Alice Dugas, librarian of *Pointe Coupee*. Sarah Jones represented the *State Library*.

Jane Ellen Carstens will take a leave of absence from the *Hamilton Training School Library at Southwestern* for the 1948-49 school year to work in the children's department of the *New York Public Library*. Hazel Sochrider, library science student at S. L. I. will take her place.

Mrs. Olin D. Moore, librarian at the *Many High School*, will teach the library science classes this summer at *Northwestern State College*.

Mrs. Frances Cantwell, now librarian at *Winnfield High School*, is leaving the profession at the end of the school year. She and her husband are moving to Baton Rouge where they will be in business.

Yvonne Toups, librarian at *Raceland High School*, will be librarian and reviser of the *LSU Library School* this summer.

Robert Lightfoot, now at *Louisiana Polytechnic Institute*, will become librarian of the *Missouri Valley College Library in Marshall, Missouri*.

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#### NEW A.L.A. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

John Mackenzie Cory succeeds Carl H. Milam. Mr. Cory has been Chairman of A. L. A. Committee on Awards, member of Library Extension Board and Treasurer of Library Education Division.

# LOUISIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

VIRGINIA HOTEL, MONROE, APRIL 22-24, 1948

## Thursday, April 22

10:30 A. M.—12:00 NOON, and 1:30-3:00 P. M.

REGISTRATION (Virginia Hotel Lobby)

3:00 P. M.

GENERAL SESSION (Crystal Ball Room). JOHN HALL JACOBS, presiding.

*Greetings*—MAYOR H. H. BENOIT, of Monroe

*Committee Reports Panel*: Hospitality; Nominations; Membership; Auditing; Adult Education; Federal Relations; Bulletin; Constitution, By-Laws and Manual

*Address*: "You and Your Professional Association,"—N. ORWIN RUSH, Executive Secretary, Association of College and Reference Libraries

8:00 P. M.

GENERAL SESSION (Crystal Ball Room). EUGENE WATSON, presiding; JOHN HALL JACOBS, referee

*Librarians' Town Meeting*

"The National Plan for Public Library Service,"—ESSAE M. CULVER

"Practical Publicity Resources for the Average Library,"—MRS. MAX SCHENKER

"Cooperation between School and Public Library Services,"—SUE COLTHARP

"Library Salaries,"—MARGARET M. HERDMAN

"Recruitment for Librarianship,"—EUGENE WATSON

"The Citizens Library Movement and Friends-of-the-Library Groups,"—ELIZABETH WILLIAMS

"Developments in Library Equipment and Services,"—ROBERT M. TRENT

"The Library and Its Work with Community Groups,"—GEORGE KING LOGAN

## Friday, April 23

9:00-10:00 A. M.

REGISTRATION (Lobby)

10:00 A. M.

GENERAL SESSION (Crystal Ball Room). SUE HEFLEY, presiding

*Committee Reports Panel*: State Planning; Legislation; Salary, Staff, and Tenure; Distribution of State Documents; Public Relations; State Aid; Publicity; Resolutions

*Address*: "Russia and the Marshall Plan,"—JOHN E. KIEFFER, Associate Professor of Political Science, Tulane University

2:00 P. M.

GENERAL SESSION (Crystal Ball Room). JOHN HALL JACOBS, presiding

*Reports of the President, Secretary, and Treasurer*

"Louisiana in Children's Books: A Reading List,"—MILDRED P. HARRINGTON

*Business Session*

"The Atlanta Conference on Library Training: A Panel Report,"—MRS. FLORRINELL F. MORTON, SUE HEFLEY, ANNA DAVIS, MRS. RUBIE M. HANKS, and MARY W. HARRIS

4:30-6:00 P. M.

TEA (Lotus Club)—Hostesses, OUACHITA PARISH PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF CONTROL

6:30 P. M.

DINNER (Informal). Virginia Hotel Roof

*Note*: All members, whether they have attended the dinner or not, are cordially invited to attend the following General Session

8:15 P. M.

GENERAL SESSION (Crystal Ball Room). GARLAND F. TAYLOR, presiding

MODISETTE AWARD PRESENTATION—JUDGE BEN C. DAWKINS

ADDRESS: "You Can't Eat Democracy,"—DAVID L. COHN

## Saturday, April 24

8:15 A. M.

LIBRARY SCHOOL BREAKFAST (Cameo Room)

9:30 A. M.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION (Ouachita Parish School Library). Chairman, MRS. SYBIL Y. FARR

"Recruiting for Librarianship: a Project in Broadcast and Transcription,"  
MILDRED P. HARRINGTON, L.S.U. Library School

*Business Meeting*

PANEL DISCUSSION: "Professional Organization of School Librarians in Louisiana." Presiding, SUE HEFLEY, Supervisor of School Libraries, State Department of Education

Participants: MRS. MILDRED BROWN, Bastrop Central School; NORRIS McCLELLAN, Library School, L.S.U.; AGNES CLARK, Natchitoches High School; and JANE ELLEN CARSTENS, Hamilton Training School, Lafayette

ADDRESS—RUTH C. BARLOW, Author and Advisor on Children's Reading, Book Mart, Shreveport

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

10:00 A. M.

SECTIONAL MEETINGS

COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION (Maple Room). Chairman, MRS. LOUISE GRAY LEMERT

"The Administrator Looks at the Library,"—DEAN RODNEY CLINE, Northeast Junior College of Louisiana State University

"College, University, and Reference Libraries as Reflected in the Work of the ACRL,"—N. ORWIN RUSH, Executive Secretary, Association of College and Reference Libraries

Committee Reports: State Documents; Newspaper Project; Statistics; Nominations

PUBLIC AND REGIONAL SECTION (Virginia Hotel Roof). Chairman, BESS VAUGHAN

Theme: "Dynamics of Library Service"

*Business Meeting*

"The Fun of Children's Work,"—RUTH BARLOW, author of Children's books, and former Children's Librarian, Flint, Michigan

"Library Service—the Personal Touch,"—MRS. LOIS RAINER GREEN, Director, Public Library Service Division, Alabama Department of Archives and History

1:00 P. M.

TRUSTEES' LUNCHEON (Crystal Ball Room). Chairman, OVEY TRAHAN

Greetings—MRS. BERNARD BIEDENHARN, Ouachita Parish Public Library Board of Control

"A Business Man Looks at the Library,"—JOHN S. FOX, Monroe

LUNCHEON MEETING, Louisiana Chapter *Special Libraries Association*, (Cameo Room), MILDRED HOGAN, presiding

Speaker: JANE DAVIES, Union Producing Company, Shreveport

*Business Session*

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1947-48

FELLOW LIBRARIANS:

In rendering this report of my term as your president, I am reminded afresh of my obligations to all of you and particularly to my fellow officers, committee members, sectional chairmen, and representatives whose untiring work resulted in a pleasant and rewarding annual meeting. In reporting on activities of the executive and seeking an evaluation of efforts, I am impressed by the contributions of previous officers whose leadership has brought to our association not only an efficient functioning unit but also a high point of development in professional relationships. The Louisiana Library Association has arrived at a stage of maturity.

As president of the organization I have endeavored to carry forward the basic policies of my predecessors and enlarge upon them by providing additional channels for the growth and development of our membership, particularly of those members who have not heretofore been active in affairs of the association. I believe that the primary purpose of any organization of professional people is to arouse an interest in professional problems and provide opportunities for self-expression, both orally and in writing. The development of latent talent and leadership should be encouraged by the association which should endeavor to arouse public interest in and support of its objectives.

To implement these objectives I recommended to the Executive board early in my term certain projects which I believed, would help accomplish these goals. First, an award to be given to the author of the most worthwhile book on Louisiana. Second, compilation of a list of books for children and young people on Louisiana. Third, secure from the membership a frank expression of wishes regarding annual conferences and follow majority opinions as closely as possible. Fourth, plan a program for the conference which would provide a forum for members to discuss topics of statewide interest. Fifth, assist and encourage standing committees in every way possible.

The first objective was referred to the public relations committee which explored the pattern suggested by the president for establishing the award. Although this particular plan did not result in immediate success, it did arouse considerable interest in the project and the basic idea was unanimously adopted by the membership. (See Secretary's Report). A special committee was established to work on the second project, and their report is also covered by the minutes. Plans for obtaining printed copies of the bibliography are now being studied. On the third objective, the Bulletin generously provided the medium for an appeal for suggestions and many persons responded. Since there were conflicts of opinions on details, not all the suggestions could be carried out at the Convention, but a few were incorporated into the program. The idea of the Town Hall type of session was well received, and no serious criticism has reached me regarding the separation of the book dinner

and the book program.

I am the first to admit that the fifth objective was not pursued as vigorously by the president as it should have been. However, the Modisette Award Committee received financial help from the Executive Board which voted to provide funds for engraving a supply of certificates which will enable the Committee to make awards for several years to come with a small cash outlay. Personal conferences were held with chairmen of several other committees.

The Association was fortunate in being invited to participate in the Southeastern Conference on Education for Librarianship which was held in Atlanta on February 28—March 6, 1948.

The pamphlet on recruiting which was prepared under Miss Hefley's administration has attracted national attention and requests have come from many libraries and groups outside the state for copies. The Association of College and Reference Libraries through their Louisiana representative, Mr. Watson, asked for 500 copies for distribution. This request was granted and the supply is exhausted. Since Mr. Watson, the incoming president has elected to concentrate on recruiting during his administration the subject will be kept before us during the days ahead.

The conference theme "You in united effort" epitomizes the year's activity. Any accomplishment of the year is due to all who have cooperated cheerfully and freely to the end that my administration was a happy experience.

JOHN HALL JACOBS

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#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Louisiana Library Association held its twenty-second annual conference in Monroe, April 22-24, 1948, with headquarters at the Virginia Hotel. The presiding officers were: President, Mr. John Hall Jacobs of the New Orleans Public Library; First

Vice-President, Mr. Eugene P. Watson of Northwestern State College at Natchitoches; Second Vice-President, Miss S. Metella Williams of the L. S. U. Library School; Secretary, Miss Jean E. Mason of the Louisiana State Library in Baton Rouge; Treasurer,



Miss Helen Maestri of Francis T. Nicholls High School in New Orleans; and Past President, Miss Sue Hefley, Supervisor of School Libraries, State Department of Education.

Of the 374 paid members of the Association, 172 were registered at the Convention.

In accordance with suggestions and recommendations from several committee chairmen, the membership present voted to make the Association's fiscal, official, and membership year all coincide with the calendar year. In order to make the change with the least disturbance possible, it was decided that the newly elected officers were to serve an eighteen months term. These new officers who take over July 1, 1948, are: President, Mr. Eugene P. Watson, of Northwestern State College at Natchitoches; First Vice-President, Mr. W. D. Postell of the L. S. U. Medical Library in New Orleans; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Lucille Carnahan of Northwestern State College in Natchitoches; Secretary, Mrs. Rubie M. Hanks of the Winn Parish Library; Treasurer, Miss Mary Clay of Northeast Junior College in Monroe; with Miss Sue Hefley as ALA counselor and Miss Essae M. Culver and Mrs. Florinell F. Morton representatives to the Southwestern Association.

On Thursday afternoon, at the first general session, Mr. Rush's address: "You and Your Professional Association" sounded the keynote of the whole conference which was built around the central theme of "The You in United Effort."

The Thursday night session took the form of a Librarians Town meeting with Eugene Watson presiding and Mr. Jacobs acting as referee. Miss Culver outlined "The National Plan for Public Library Service" and also brought out the parts to be played by "The Citizens' Library Movement and Friends-of-the-Library Groups" for Elizabeth Williams who could not be present. Time had to be called on Mrs. Tillie Schenker because she had so many "Practical Publicity Resources for the Average Library". Miss Sue Coltharp pointed out opportunities for "Cooperation Between School and Public

Library Services". Dr. Herdman's report of the improvement in "Library Salaries" gave more hope for Eugene Watson's "Recruitment for Librarianship". Robert M. Trent told of "Developments in Library Equipment and Services". George King Logan brought the session to a close with a discussion of the "Library and its Work with Community Groups".

At the Friday morning session Miss Hefley presided and asked Dr. Garland Taylor to introduce John E. Kieffer, Associate Professor of Political Science at Tulane. His address on "Russia and the Marshall Plan" was especially thought-provoking since the accuracy of his predictions is said to average better than that of Allen, Pearson, or Winchell.

At the Thursday afternoon and Friday morning sessions, committee reports were given, and some of the more important items of business decided were:

The Adult Education committee was instructed to investigate the various adult education agencies functioning in the state and to take whatever steps necessary to coordinate and reactivate the adult education program in Louisiana.

The Association went on record as reaffirming its support of the Federal Aid Bill to Libraries now before Congress, urging its passage in the present session. If the bill is not passed during the present session, the Association urges that it be re-introduced at the next Congressional session.

The Association voted to finance the *L. L. A. Bulletin* up to, and not to exceed \$400.00, the exact amount to be left to the discretion of the Executive board.

The Association voted to attempt, through the Executive Board, the establishment of a Louisiana writer's award, the award to be in the form of a medal to be presented at the annual Book Dinner.

The Association passed resolutions thanking all professional and commercial exhibitors for their co-operation and all committees and individuals responsible for making the annual conference a success.

Mr. Jacobs presided at the Friday after-



noon session at which Sue Coltharp presented Miss Mildred P. Harrington's report on her committee's bibliography "Louisiana in Children's Books: a Reading List."

Miss Sallie Farrel submitted the following resolution concerning a building to house the State Library which was adopted by the Association:

Whereas, the Louisiana State Library has no permanent quarters, the present location being owned by the Department of Highways and loaned temporarily to the Louisiana State library, and

Whereas, the present location, built forty-seven years ago to house the comparatively small library of the Louisiana State University, is inadequate for the administration of a modern state library agency, and

Whereas, the building inadequacies are numerous, limiting progress, and

Whereas, in the present quarters it is impossible to give a legislative reference service, which is a function prescribed by law; impossible to house state and historical documents; impossible to begin a genealogical service; and

Whereas, an estimate by a government engineer for enlarging the building to a size adequate to house all departments and allow for twenty years' development exceeded the cost of a new building, therefore be it

Resolved, that the Louisiana Library Association in convention assembled at Monroe, April 23, 1948, does hereby pledge this organization's support to a movement for obtaining more adequate housing for the Louisiana State Library.

At this same Friday afternoon session a panel report on "The Atlanta Conference on Library Training" was given by Mrs. Florri-nell F. Morton, Sue Hefley, Anna Davis, Mrs. Rubie M. Hanks, and Mary W. Harris. The conclusions drawn from the conference held in Atlanta from February 29 through March 6, 1948 in which directors of A. L. A. and Southern Association accredited training agencies, School Library Supervisors, members of State Extension Agencies, representatives from college and university and from public libraries participated were, to quote

Mrs. Morton: "That curriculum planning is most effective when it is done cooperatively, and all those affected by the program, librarians and teachers, people in general education and in professional education, consumers of library services and students of librarianship, should be brought into the planning." Mrs. Morton went on to say that the conference demonstrated "that an inventory of the personnel needs of libraries within the areas to be served by the library school is basic to curriculum planning" and concluded that "We want librarians with the best general education possible and we want librarians trained for leadership."

Friday evening from 4:30-6:00 Mrs. Bernard Biedenharn and the other members of the Ouachita Parish Library Board of Control were hostesses to the Association members at a tea held at the Lotus Club.

At the informal dinner on the Virginia Hotel Roof the Association had as its student guests, Martha Ann Scott from L. S. U., Stella Kalpakis and Mary Francis Manry from Louisiana Polytechnic Institute; Francis Smith, Ruby Weaver, and Betty Warner from Northwestern State College.

The last general session was held Friday night in the Crystal Ball Room with the Program Chairman, Garland Taylor, presiding.

Miss Culver introduced Judge Ben C. Dawkins who paid glowing tribute to the memory of Mr. J. O. Modisette before presenting the Modisette Award certificate to Mrs. Max Schenker for the East Baton Rouge Parish Library and to Miss Anna Davis for the Library of Southeastern Louisiana College. Dr. Taylor then presented the main speaker of the evening, David L. Cohn.

Mr. Cohn said that he had been interested in foreign affairs ever since he could remember and that he had studied international law. As a result of this interest and his studies he had decided that the most important factor in world relations is the understanding of each other by the nations. Mr. Cohn urged us to examine the behavior of the people of our own country in relation to the attitudes of the other nations towards

us.

Mr. Cohn said that mere denunciation of communism was rather fatuous without understanding the reason for its spread. Both bodily hunger and land hunger make the Oriental and European masses ready to grasp at any hope or promise of betterment. He said that if you're hungry enough you'll accept any terms to get food.

Mr. Cohn concluded that we could neither escape nor deny the need of an European recovery program because the mere ideals of democracy were not enough. He concluded with the effective summation: "You can't keep warm under the Constitution on a cold night. You can't fry the Bill of Rights. You can't eat democracy."

Saturday morning was given over to sectional meetings.

The special thanks of the members of the Association are due to the New Method Book Bindery for four printed programs; to Dr. Garland Taylor and his Program Committee, to Sue Hefley and Sallie Farrell for the excellent speakers and coordination of the whole convention, and to Miss Frances Flanders and the rest of her Hospitality Committee who so graciously entertained us, and provided us with many more than "the comforts of home".

Jean E. Mason

#### COLLEGE AND REFERENCE SECTION

N. Orwin Rush gave the following summary of Suggested Duties of A. C. R. L. Executive Secretary:

A focal point for information, printed or otherwise.

Have on file a record of persons whose special experience, training, knowledge, avocations, interests, or other qualities equip them to advise on library problems.

Depository for correspondence files of pertinent boards and committees.

Keep in touch with all sections of the A. C. R. L., and with such other A. L. A. groups as have a direct bearing on his work.

Serve as a coordinator to eliminate duplication of effort.

Stimulate needed publication, research, and investigation.

Assist in publication, both of the Journal and other materials.

Help to plan and direct conferences.

Assist in the planning of stimulating meetings.

Assist in library surveys.

Compile statistics.

Develop standards.

To establish and maintain cordial relations with, and present the library point of view to leading national and regional educational associations.

Should not fall into the office rut which some think typical of A. L. A. procedure.

Persuade librarians generally to file with executive secretary their annual reports, their statistics, information as to their special collections, special studies in progress, copies of their bibliographies, rules and rates of their microfilm and photostat services, plans of their buildings, etc.

Cooperating with local or regional agencies in revising or devising adequate standards.

Representing the needs of college libraries to boards or corporations making grants to libraries.

Do something constructive about the personnel situation, so as to keep the graduates of our library schools in our profession instead of seeing them leaving it in droves.

Organize local groups of college and university librarians.

Assisting in placement service.

Keep in touch with work and experimentation done in other institutions—coordinate this work and develop goals and ways and means to achieve improved service.

Help A. C. R. L. to evolve into an organization which will more nearly parallel that of the learned societies in order to develop the discipline of librarianship on a more professional and scholarly plane.

Cultivation of mutual understanding between librarians and their colleagues in the learned societies.

Stimulate professional growth of college librarians and assist administrators in gain-

ing an understanding of what adequate library service should be and in recognizing the library as an integral teaching unit in the college.

Issue a newsletter.

Develop improved relations between librarians and instructors.

Study the programs for librarianship offered in library schools.

Increasing the membership of A. C. R. L.

Prevail on the A. L. A. to take a sympathetic attitude toward our needs.

New officers elected were: chairman, Guy R. Lyle, Director of Libraries, L. S. U.; vice chairman, E. J. Scheerer, Librarian, Louisiana Polytechnic Institute; secretary-treasurer, Patricia Catlett, Southeastern Louisiana College.

#### TRUSTEES SECTION

Two weeks prior to the Louisiana Library Association's Annual Conference, letters of information concerning the Trustees Luncheon were sent to all trustees in the state. (Letters were also sent by local librarian to all public librarians in the state).

Wrote article concerning the Trustees meeting for the "Winn Parish Library Courier."

Appointed the following Nominating Committee: Mr. Paul C. Phelps, Ponchatoula, La.; Mr. Henry Bethard, Coushatta, La.; Mrs. Robert Baker, Minden, La.

Arranged program for the Trustees Luncheon.

Presided at Trustees Luncheon in Monroe, Saturday, April 24. Following program was given: Greetings by Mrs. Bernard Biedenharn; introduction of distinguished visitors; recognition of representatives from all parishes; and address, "A Business Man Looks at the Library" by John S. Fox.

Newly elected officers were: Chairman, Mrs. Bernard Biedenharn, Ouachita Parish Library Board; Secretary, Miss Frances Flanders, Librarian, Ouachita Parish Library.

Ovey Trahan,  
Chairman.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARIES SECTION

In September of 1947 the Public Libraries Section assisted the Louisiana State Library in putting on a meeting of the Parish and Regional Librarians in Baton Rouge. In spite of the hurricane which occurred that week-end, it was considered a success by those who managed to attend.

At the annual convention in April of 1948, the Public Libraries Section was responsible for a Saturday morning program at which time Miss Ruth Barlow, former Children's Librarian of Flint, Michigan, and Mrs. Lois Green, Director of Public Library Service, Alabama, were guest speakers. A short business session was held following the speakers at which time reports were made by committee chairman and the officers for the following year were elected. Miss Kathryn Adams of Rapides Parish Library was elected Chairman, and Miss Dorothy Duncan of Beauregard Parish Library was elected Secretary.

After expenses for the guest speakers were paid, the Public Libraries Section now has in its Treasury \$23.50. Mrs. Rubie Hanks, of Winnfield, was directed by the group at its business meeting to meet with the Retirement Committee of the Louisiana Police Jury Association, to discuss retirement for parish librarians, her expenses to be paid out of the section's balance. To date this item has not been reported.

Bess Vaughan,  
Chairman.

#### SCHOOL LIBRARIES SECTION

At the twenty-second annual conference of the Louisiana Library Association held in Monroe, April 22-24, 1948, the school libraries of the state were well represented. On Saturday, the day of the sectional meeting, there were twenty-two school librarians present. In addition there were four professors of library science and three students from the L. S. U. Library School, the supervisor of school libraries, an author, and a book shop proprietor.

Miss Norris McClellan, professor at the  
(Concluded on Page 116)

## FIFTY NOTABLE BOOKS FOR 1947

A preference for non-fiction dealing with national and international political and economic problems, and fiction concerning the American scene, was disclosed in the annual selection of Fifty Notable Books of the Year.

Selection of the most notable books of 1947 was made by the Public Library Division of A.L.A., thus representing a cross-section of library opinion. Books chosen are those most worthy of attention by the present day readers, though not necessarily of permanent value.

Many of the non-fiction works cover U. S.-Russian relations. Among them are: Canby, *American Memoir*; Crum, *Behind the Silken Curtain*; Dallin, *Forced Labor in Soviet Russia*; Matthiessen, *The James Family*; Dean, *The U. S. and Russia*; Fischer, *Gandhi and Stalin*; Gunther, *Inside U. S. A.*; Johnson, *Soviet Russia Since the War*; Johnson, *William Allen White's America*; Lauterbach, *Danger from the East*; Shirer, *End of a Berlin Diary*; Commission on Freedom of the Press, *A Free and Responsible Press*; U. S. President's Committee on Civil Rights, *To Secure These Rights*; West, *The Meaning of Treason*; Lundberg, *Modern Woman: the Lost Sex*; Toynbee, *A Study of History* (abridged); Byrnes, *Speaking Frankly*.

Most of the novels deal with American political and social problems ranging from the early 19th century to the present day. They include: Brace, *The Garretson Chronicle*; Burns, *The Gallery*; Davidson, *The Steeper Cliff*; Duncan, *Gus the Great*; Guthrie, *The Big Sky*; Haines, *Command Decision*; Hobson, *Gentleman's Agreement*; Levi, *Christ Stopped at Eboli*; Lewis, *Kingsblood Royal*; Roberts, *Lydia Bailey*; Spence, *Vain Shadow*; Stone, *Adversary in the House*; Walker, *The Quarry*; Williams, *House Divided*.

Other books on the list are: Brooks, *The Times of Melville and Whitman*; Butterfield, *The American Past*; Colum, *Life and the Dream*; Conant, *On Understanding Science*; De Voto, *Across the Wide Missouri*; Frost, *Steeple Bush*; Kantor, *But Look the Morn*; (Concluded on Page 120)

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(Continued from Page 114)

L. S. U. Library School, explained a recent project of the Baton Rouge Library Club—recruiting for librarianship. One of the six transcriptions made in the project was played and enthusiastically received.

The panel discussion, "Professional Organization of School Librarians in Louisiana", with Miss Sue Hefley, supervisor of school libraries of Louisiana, presiding, disclosed that there are two professional organizations at the state level in which school librarians participate with duplication of membership, dues, interests, purpose. The school libraries sections of both the Louisiana Education Association and the Louisiana Library Association are composed of practically the same members. However, the group decided to study the problem further before taking any definite action.

Mrs. T. F. Wilbanks, chairman of the committee to make a survey of practices in rewarding or recognizing student library assistants in school libraries, as a result of the survey, recommended that no academic credit be given for this service.

Highlighting the program was a talk by Miss Ruth Barlow, adviser of Children's reading at the Book Mart, Shreveport, La. Miss Barlow was formerly head of the Children's Department of the Flint Public Library, Flint, Mich. She told informally of the adventures of being an author and described in detail the writing and publication of her book, "Fun at Happy Acres", a book for small children.

The Section voted to share expenses of Miss Barlow's trip with the public library section. The expenses were estimated at \$20.00 or \$10.00 per section.

Mrs. Hayes, librarian at Ouachita Parish

High School, where the meeting was held, served refreshments in the attractive library during a brief intermission.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Ruth Clark, Lake Charles High School; Secretary, Miss Ruby Moore, Fair Park High School, Shreveport.

Sybil Y. Farr  
Retiring President.

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### PARISH LIBRARY CONFERENCE

A week's conference of parish librarians, directed by the Louisiana State Library, will be held at Northwestern State College at Natchitoches, August 9-14.

Mrs. Gretchen Schenk, nationally known figure in the library extension field, will be an out-of-state consultant for the Conference.

Assisting with the Conference also will be Mrs. Charles Morton, Director, L. S. U. Library School, and Miss Sue Hefley, Supervisor of School Libraries, as well as members of the State Library Staff and visiting speakers in the fields of radio, speech, window display, news writing, etc.

The Conference will function through two large groups, its directors announce. The workshop technique will be largely used for the parish librarians group, emphasizing as it does: group participation, informality of discussion, and flexibility of schedule. For the headquarters workers, library routines will be taught through the course method.

Northwestern State College is furnishing comfortable and pleasant living quarters at a small cost, and arrangements have been made for meals at a college restaurant. Through the interest of Eugene Watson, librarian at Northwestern, library facilities will be made available.

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### SOUTHWESTERN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

Miss Essae Culver, librarian of the State Library in Baton Rouge is program chairman of the convention of the Southwestern Library Association which will be held on New Orleans October 31-November 3, 1948.

The Southwestern Library Association is composed of the States of Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Arizona.





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# INDEX TO VOLUME 11

- Adams, Kathryn, "The Small Parish Library Serves Business and Industry" 77-79
- "American Cancer Society, Louisiana Division, Bibliographic Service," by Virginia Parker 52-53
- Aurianne, Augustine, Will of 22
- Book reviews, High School Students 25-26
- Book reviews, High School Teachers 26
- Book reviews, Teen-age 24-25
- Brooks, Cleanth, "The Librarian and Literature" 38-42
- Bulletin, Louisiana Library Association. Financial report, 1946-47 23
- Business education, Bibliography on 80-86
- Campbell, Ruth, "Louisiana in Print" 13, 79
- "Cunningham, Thomas F., Reference Library," by Hazel H. Fort 66-68
- Carnahan, Lucille T., "School Librarians Pool Their Ideas" 55-58
- College and Reference Section, L.L.A. 113-14
- Demonstration libraries in Louisiana 11-13
- "East Baton Rouge Parish Library Finds the Answer," by Tillie Schenker 73-74
- "Expanding Horizons," by John Hall Jacobs 8
- Farrell, Sallie, "Statement before Subcommittee of the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare, U. S. Senate" 11-13
- Federal aid for libraries 14
- Flanders, Frances, "Ouachita Parish Votes a Library Tax" 75-77
- Fort, Hazel H., "Thomas F. Cunningham Reference Library" 66-68
- Great books program 7
- Hefley, Sue, "The School Library and Business Education" 80-86
- Hefley, Sue, "A State Library Association Comes of Age" 53-54
- Hogan, Mildred, "Notes on Library Service to Business" 69-70
- "If the Shoe Fits," by Gretchen Knief Schenk 48-52
- International House, New Orleans, Reference Library 66-68
- Jacobs, John Hall, "Expanding Horizons" 8
- Jacobs, John Hall, President L. L. A. 1947-48 109-10
- Kieffer, John E., "Russia and the Marshall Plan" 94-99
- "The Librarian and Literature," by Cleanth Brooks 38-42
- "Library Gadgets," by Ruth K. Moor 45-48
- Louisiana in print 13, 79
- Louisiana Industrial Directory 64
- Louisiana Library Association. Constitution and By-laws 20-21
- L.L.A. Officers and Committees, 1947-48 58-59
- Louisiana Library Association, organization and activities 53-54
- Louisiana Library Association, Treasurer's Report, 1946-47 22
- Louisiana Library Association, Twenty-Second Annual Conference 108-09
- Louisiana Library Association Membership list 27-36
- Louisiana State Department of Commerce and Industry Library 69-70
- Louisiana State Library, Positions open 21
- Louisiana State University. Gift and exchanges division, Announcement 23
- "Louisiana State University Library Services for Business and Industry," by Ruth Walling 86-86
- Mason, Jean E., Secretary L.L.A. 1947-48 110-18

Membership, Louisiana Library Association	27-36	Parker, Virginia, "American Cancer Society, Louisiana Division, Bibliographic Service,"	52-53
Moor, Ruth K., "Library Gadgets"	45-48	People and places	15, 60, 90, 104
Morton, Florinell F., "The Work Conference in Improved Library Service"	9-11	President, L.L.A. 1947-48, Report	109-10
Mounce, Mattie Sue, "People and Places"	15, 60, 90, 104	Public Libraries Section L.L.A.	114
National Conference of Christians and Jews	25	Public library service demonstration act	11-13, 14
National Plan for Public Library Service	48-52	Quigley, Margery, "The Trees and the Woods"	43-44
"New Orleans Public Library, Service to Business," by Ruth Renaud	70-73	Renaud, Ruth, "Service to Business—New Orleans Public Library"	70-73
"Notes on Library Service to Business," by Mildred Hogan	69-70	Rush, N. Orwin, "You and Your Professional Association"	99-104
Officers and Committees, L.L.A., 1947-48	58-59	"Russia and the Marshall Plan," by John E. Kieffer	94-99
"Ouachita Parish Votes a Library Tax," by Frances Flanders	75-77	Schenker, Tillie, "East Baton Rouge Parish Library Finds the Answer"	73-74
Parish libraries, Louisiana	11-13	Schenk, Gretchen Knief, "If the Shoe Fits"	48-52
Parish Library Conference	116		

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"School Librarians Pool Their Ideas," by Lucille T. Carnahan.....	55-58	Teen-age book reviews.....	24-25
School Libraries Section, L.L.A.....	114-16	"The Trees and the Woods," by Mar- gery Quigley .....	43-44
"The School Library and Business Edu- cation," by Sue Hefley.....	80-86	Trustees Section, L.L.A.....	114
Secretary, L.L.A. 1947-48, Report.....	110-13	'You and Your Professional Associa- tion," by N. Orwin Rush.....	99-104
"Service to Business—New Orleans Public Library," by Ruth Renaud.....	70-73	Walling, Ruth, "Louisiana State Uni- versity Library Services for Business and Industry".....	86-88
"The Small Parish Library Serves Busi- ness and Industry," by Kathryn Adams .....	77-79	Wiley, Bell I., "The South and the Na- tion" .....	2-7
"The South and the Nation", by Prof. Bell I. Wiley.....	2-7	"The Work Conference in Improved School Library Service", by Florrinell F. Morton .....	9-11
"A State Library Association Comes of Age," by Sue Hefley.....	53-54		

(Continued from Page 115)

Keith, *Three Came Home*; Lecomte du  
Nouy, *Human Destiny*; Levin, *My Father's  
House*; Mauldin, *Back Home*; Meyer, *Peace  
or Anarchy*; Millis, *This is Pearl!*; Morison,

*The Battle of the Atlantic*; Mott, *Golden  
Multitudes*; Murphy, *Logbook for Grace*;  
Nevins, *Ordeal of the Union*, 2 v.; Paul,  
*Linden on the Saugus Branch*; Taylor, *Richer  
by Asia*.

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